

Welcome to Southend in Sight's Summer edition of Fundraising News.

We have been the recipient of some large legacies over the last year. We are always very grateful to receive a donation in a will from a local person we have supported over the years. This really has helped us continue with our current level of services as our building, as with all households around the UK, has seen a dramatic rise in energy bills and other associated costs.

We have two grants coming to an end this summer, but we have plans in place to seek continuation funding from the National Lottery. Fingers crossed we are successful with this!



Our Community Fundraising continues apace. Community Coordinator Liz recently attended a "Drive In" event at Ballards Gore Golf Club in Hockley.

Liz is pictured left with the joint Lady Captains Lynn Brand and Sonia Odell. The ladies have chosen

to support Southend in Sight and will be fundraising for us throughout the year. They have managed to raise £900 already – we are sure their fundraising efforts will be a great success and we look forward to connecting with their members.

The Rochford Rotary Club have once again made a very generous donation of £1000 to enable us to buy essential equipment. Our new intern Kirsty has a touch screen laptop and the Centre has a new i-phone to demonstrate to

anyone visiting us for a tech appointment. Given that last year we helped almost 100 people with tech, this purchase will benefit many local visually impaired people.

Our charity shop continues to enjoy good sales, thanks in no small part to the wonderful donations we receive from our supporters. The Spring pop-up shop held way back in March was a huge success, with Easter baskets and Mother's Day gifts flying out the door, all helping to raise £400 on the day.



The charity shop also joined in with “Mend it May” last month. This is a nationwide annual event to encourage mending and repair, run by Sustainable Fashion Week UK. Our charity shop sold clothing in need of repair at a reduced price as well as sewing items to enable customers to mend things themselves.

The picture above shows a list of instructions: 1. Buy something that needs mending. 2. Mend it. 3. Post a photo. Our customers seemed to enjoy helping to reduce waste, recycling and the “make do and mend” ethos of our shop!

Don't forget, if you can spare £5 a month, you could join our Diamond Club and help support our work. You can also talk to us about leaving a gift in your will.

We can also offer talks to any group or organisation that wishes to hear about our charity. For more information on this and any other fundraising enquiries, please call **Catherine Hodgson** or **Liz Payne** on **01702 34 21 31**.

Southend in Sight

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